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SENATE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of legendary civil rights icon, Alice Tregay; and

WHEREAS, Alice Tregay was a native of Evanston, known as a child by the name of Lucille Hicks; and

WHEREAS, Alice Tregay became active in public life in the 1960s; in 1971, along with her longtime allies, (the late) Janice Bell and Rev. Willie T. Barrow (who recently preceded her in death), she helped start the Political Education Division for Dr. King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference, under the leadership of a young organizer named Jesse Jackson; and taught thousands of students how to organize citizens and lead political campaigns; she served as director and chief lobbyist for the Black Illinois Legislative Lobby in Springfield from 1977 to 1982; and

WHEREAS, Alice Tregay directed the local and national voter registration, voter education, and get-out-the-vote campaigns under Operation Breadbasket, PUSH, and Rainbow/PUSH, including the historic election and re-election of Chicago's first black Mayor Harold Washington; and

1 WHEREAS, Alice Tregay and her husband, James, marched
2 numerous times alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in support
3 of open housing and desegregation in the Chicago public
4 schools; she was also the President of the South Shore
5 Organization for Human Rights; and

6 WHEREAS, Alice Tregay has advocated on behalf of the
7 disadvantaged, registered thousands of new voters, and managed
8 or worked on behalf of many high-profile political campaigns,
9 including Rev. Jackson's presidential campaigns of 1984 and
10 1988, and President Obama's campaign in 2008, and as a result,
11 the citizens of Illinois and those across the country are
12 better off; and

13 WHEREAS, A documentary on Alice Tregay's extraordinary
14 life, "Alice's Ordinary People", was presented to a full-house
15 at the Shorefront Legacy Center on June 19, 2013; and

16 WHEREAS, Alice Tregay was never one to slow down and was
17 still promoting voter registration late in her life; she will
18 go down in history as registering more voters than any other
19 voter education activist in political history; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
22 a civil rights icon, Alice Tregay, and extend our sincere

1 condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved
2 her; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
4 presented to the family of Alice Tregay as an expression of our
5 deepest sympathy.